

OPINION 1248

LETHOCERUS MAYR, 1853 (INSECTA, HEMIPTERA):
CONSERVED

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers the generic name *Iliastus* Gistel, [1848] is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The generic name *Lethocerus* Mayr, 1853 (gender: masculine), type species, by monotypy, *Lethocerus cordofanus* Mayr, 1853, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2189.

(3) The specific name *fakir* Gistel, [1848], as published in the binomen *Belostoma fakir* (the valid name at the time of this ruling for the type species of *Lethocerus* Mayr, 1853) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2853.

(4) The generic name *Iliastus* Gistel, [1848], as suppressed under the plenary powers in 1 above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2134.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2161

An application for the conservation of *Lethocerus* Mayr, 1853 was first received from Dr Arnold Menke (*Systematic Entomology Lab USDA, c/o U.S. National Museum, Washington D.C. 20560, U.S.A.*) on 20 January 1976. After an exchange of correspondence it was sent to the printer on 26 September 1978 and published on 31 May 1979 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 35, pp. 236–238. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to eight general serials and seven entomological serials. Dr Kerzhner (*Zoological Institute, Academy of Sciences, Leningrad, USSR*) wrote to point out, first, that the date of publication of Gistel's *Naturgeschichte des Thierreiches* is 1848, and secondly that *Lethocerus cordofanus* Mayr, 1853 is a junior synonym of *Belostoma fakir* Gistel, [1848], and that this latter name should be placed on the Official List as the valid name for the species. In all other respects he supported Dr Menke's application (*Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 37, pp. 5–6). Dr Menke accepted Dr Kerzhner's point. No other comment was received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 22 November 1982 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (1982)20 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 35, p. 237,

as modified in vol. 37, p. 6. At the close of the voting period on 22 February 1983 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes — twenty-one (21) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Brinck, Savage, Uéno, Mroczkowski, Willink, Sabrosky, Corliss, Halvorsen, Schuster, Kraus, Alvarado, Trjapitzin, Cocks, Starobogatov, Bayer, Cogger, Heppell, Welch, Ride. Dupuis voted partially in favour (for suppression of *Iliastus*).

Negative Vote — Hahn.

Bernardi was on leave of absence. No voting papers were returned by Binder and Lehtinen.

Hahn commented: 'As expressed in the application, *Iliastus* and *Lethocerus* have different type species (*Nepa grandis* for *Iliastus* and *Lethocerus cordofanus* for *Lethocerus*). Therefore the two generic names are subjective synonyms and only the "relative precedence" procedure should be used to suppress *Iliastus*. I do not agree to suppress *Iliastus* completely, as proposed by Dr Menke.'

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for the names placed on Official Lists and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

fakir, *Belostoma*, Gistel, [1848], *Naturgeschichte des Thierreiches*, p. 191

Iliastus Gistel, [1848], *Naturgeschichte des Thierreiches*, p. 149

Lethocerus Mayr, 1853, *Verh. zool.-bot. Ver. Wien*, vol. 2, Sitzungsber., p. 17.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on V.P.(82)20 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that voting paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1248.

R. V. MELVILLE

Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

22 March 1983